

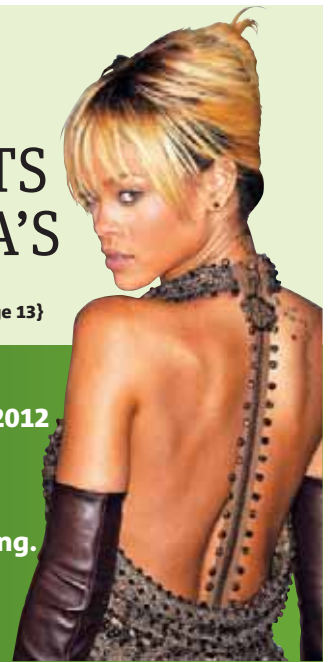


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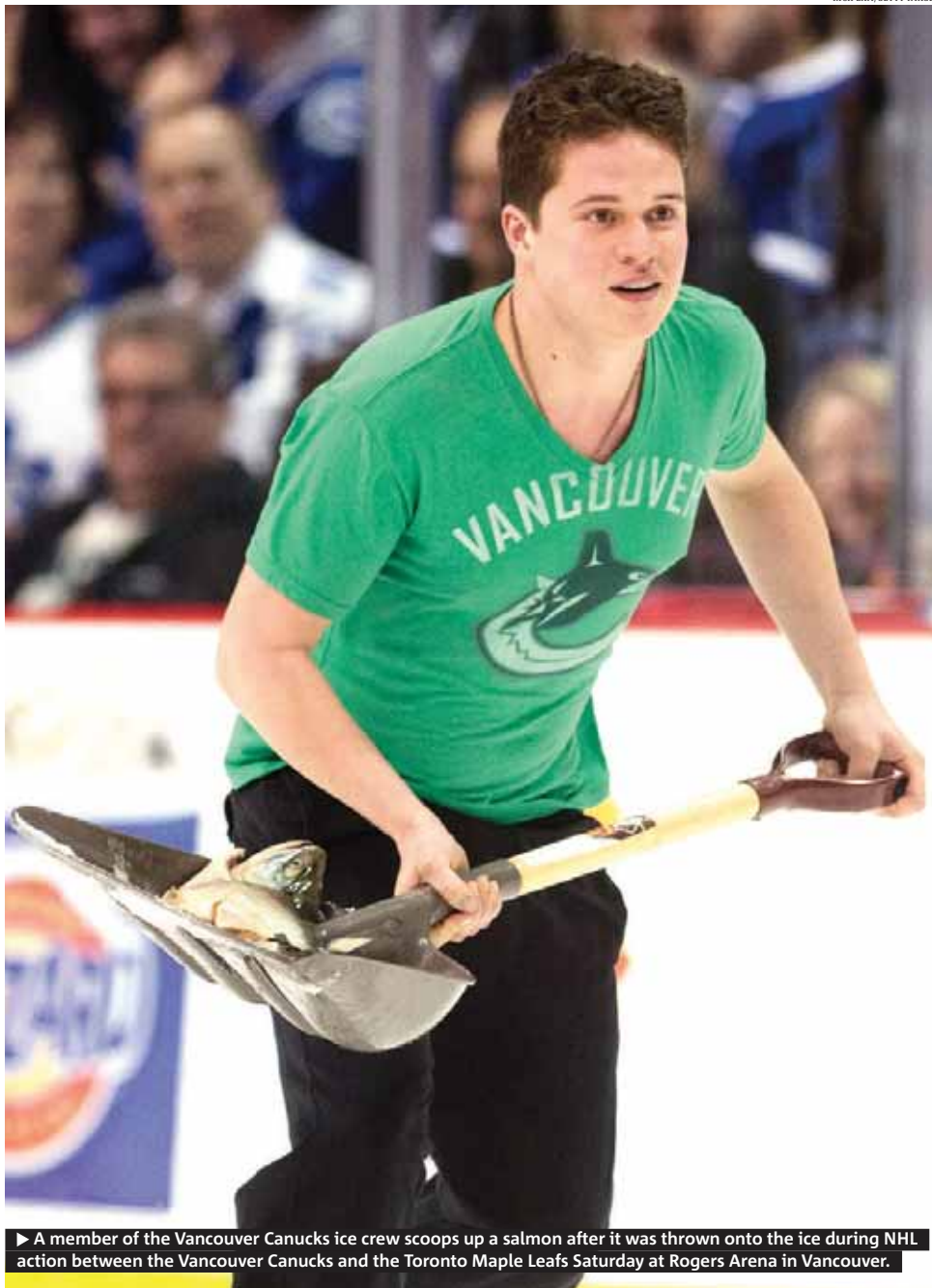
VANCOUVER

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Wednesday, February 22, 2012
www.metronews.ca



News worth sharing.



► A member of the Vancouver Canucks ice crew scoops up a salmon after it was thrown onto the ice during NHL action between the Vancouver Canucks and the Toronto Maple Leafs Saturday at Rogers Arena in Vancouver.

RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

Fish flies in tribute

► Nanaimo resident tossed salmon onto ice during Canucks game to honour friend



WONG
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

When Princess Diana died in 1997, Elton John rewrote the lyrics to Candle in the Wind in a musical tribute. When Garrett Paquette passed away, his friends and family arranged a different sort of tribute — chucking a large salmon onto the ice during an NHL game.

Paquette, a Leafs fan, had planned to toss a salmon onto the ice during the much-anticipated matchup between the Vancouver Canucks and the Toronto Maple Leafs before he died in an ATV accident in November.

Roger Paquette, Garrett's father, planned the trip and stunt in memory of his son.

"Roger brought three fish with him. He had these wild ideas in his head and was committed to doing it, and Garrett was the same way," said Joey Smith, one of three friends who volunteered to strap five-pound salmon to their stomachs and smuggle them into Rogers Arena.

"My only thought (when going through security) was that I hope I don't get patted down," he said. "I was just going to say I was hungry if I got caught with it."

With four minutes left in the third period, Smith's friend tossed a five-pound salmon from the lower bowl onto the ice.

CONTRIBUTED



► Joey Smith and three friends duct-taped salmon to their chests and smuggled the fish into Rogers Arena Saturday.

"I was just going to say I was hungry if I got caught with (the fish)."

JOEY SMITH

Smith was injured in the same ATV accident in which Paquette died and was unable to throw the fish himself.

He said he hopes the tribute will evolve into a salmon-tossing tradition during home games.

"I think (Garrett) is incredibly proud. Wherever he is, he's looking down on us, smiling," said Smith. "It's these little things like this that help us remember him better, a tribute to him and the amazing guy that he was."

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Mountie says he drank for comfort after fatal crash

An off-duty RCMP officer accused of obstructing justice in a fatal motorcycle accident says he downed two shots of vodka immediately afterwards to comfort himself, not to thwart the investigation.

Cpl. Monty Robinson, 41, said Tuesday that he drove his children home from the crash site in October 2008, got them settled upstairs and then drank the alcohol.

The Mountie told his B.C. Supreme Court trial that he didn't know what he was thinking at the time, but went behind his bar to get what had given him comfort in the past.

Robinson, who showed little expression, said he wasn't concerned about being charged if he were stopped for impaired driving even though he'd had five beers at a Halloween party he'd attended with his kids.

Crown lawyer Kris Pechet has accused Robinson of lying to police and minimizing the amount of liquor he consumed before the crash that killed 21-year-old Orion Hutchinson at a Delta intersection.

Robinson said that despite having five beers over four hours up until about a half hour before leaving the party, he didn't intentionally mislead the officers who arrived at the crash scene.

Under earlier questioning by his lawyer, Robinson said he didn't know why he went home and consumed alcohol after the crash.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Families shocked by inquiry change-up

► Missing-women inquiry moves towards panel workshops, away from courtroom testimony ► Families fear truth will be swept under the rug

The tearful relatives and friends of Robert Pickton's victims consoled each other outside the doors of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry on Tuesday, and wondered if they'll ever get the full truth.

In 53 days of hearings, they have heard many, but not all, of the answers they sought.

Now they fear many questions will remain unanswered as commissioner Wally Oppal announced the inquiry is launching "less adversarial" panel workshops next week.

The panels will focus on policy recommendations and do away with the thorough cross-examinations of a courtroom setting.

Formal witness testimony will continue, but not to the same extent. Some scheduled witnesses will instead take part in the panel process.

Inquiry lawyer Art Vertlieb said the commission has already heard enough to develop "a clear picture" of events and police failures from 1997 to 2002 and that it's time to start thinking about preventing future failures.

But Lilliane Beaudoin, sister of victim Dianne Rock, said she was blindsided and disappointed by the news.

"Yes, we need to help the



► Lilliane Beaudoin, flanked by other relatives of Robert Pickton's victims, is concerned about getting to the truth at the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry after commissioner Wally Oppal announced a move to less "adversarial" witness panels.

"We came here to find out what happened to our loved ones. I don't agree with what (Oppal) is about to do." LILLIANE BEAUDOIN, SISTER OF VICTIM DIANNE ROCK

women on the street now, but the only way we can do that is here with fact-finding," she said. "We came here to speak to the officers to find out where things went wrong. If we don't know what's broke, we

can't fix it."

Vertlieb tried to reassure media that formal hearings would continue, but admitted the witness list could see changes.

"We will continue to make sure that anyone that's got important information will be here to help the commission," he said. "The witness list, as it is, really is constantly an evolution."

At the end of the day, Vertlieb argued, the success of the inquiry will be judged on how well it protects society's vulnerable

women.

The panels will allow police, aboriginal leaders and the greater community to help draft a set of effective recommendations, he said.

"The most important thing is to come up with recommendations that can be implemented that can save the lives of vulnerable women," Vertlieb said. "The inquiry is only as good as the report and recommendations. That's where we need to be focusing at this point in time."

The inquiry continues.

● MATT KIELTYKA

1

news


A generation of pet parrots, their novelty long worn off, has been largely neglected and forgotten. Scan code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web at metronews.ca

This is Portland, not Portlandia: Punk gladiators ride all manner of junk bikes into a mosh pit of metal and rubber. Watch at metronews.ca/video

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B.C. a hotspot for cyber-crime

► Port Coquitlam, Vancouver and Langley among top Canadian cities vulnerable to identity theft, study says



PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
@METRONEWS.CA

Vancouver is the third most vulnerable city in Canada for cyber-crime, according to a study released Wednesday.

A new study by Norton from Symantec and research firm Sperling's BestPlaces lists the Top 10 "riskiest" online cities that are most vulnerable to identity theft.

The rankings were determined by combining Symantec's data on cyber attacks and malware infections with consumer behaviours, including access to Wi-Fi hotspots, Internet use and computer-equip-

ment expenditures.

Burlington, Ont., took the title of Canada's cyber-crime capital, while Port Coquitlam and Langley are ranked second and fourth, respectively. New Westminster jumped to eighth place from the 16th spot and Victoria ranked 10th.

The study shows that Vancouver, which rose one spot in the rankings since the 2010 analysis, had the third-highest incidence of spamming IP addresses and the second-highest number of Wi-Fi hotspots per capita as well as high social-networking use.

According to Symantec, people who are more connected online are more vulnerable to cyber-crime.

nals.

Better Business Bureau spokesperson Mark Fernandes said people shouldn't just click on email links because it can install viruses on your computer and can target others in your contact list.

People should limit where they post their email addresses to reduce spam threats, review privacy policies of websites and never reply to spam emails, he added.

"They're just trying to see if you'll ... enter their game," he said. "Once they know they have a live person that wants to engage with them, then they'll know it's a valid email address."

Missing. Women



► A man at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver Tuesday looks at photos of aboriginal women who have disappeared in Canada.

KENDRA WONG/FOR METRO

Vigil held to honour loved ones

A candlelight vigil was held at the Assembly of First Nations National Justice Forum Tuesday, honouring more than 60 missing aboriginal women in Canada.

Rave-rape charge dropped

The Crown says it has dropped a sexual-assault charge against a man who was accused of attacking a 16-year-old girl at a rave

party in Pitt Meadows two years ago.

Crown spokesman Neil MacKenzie says the charge against Colton Ashton Mc-

Morris was stayed because prosecutors didn't think there was enough evidence to get a conviction.

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+ taxes & fees \$335

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Air + 4 Nights + 2-Night Cruise from **\$649**
+ taxes & fees \$109
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Shanghai Air + 4 Nights 4-Star + 5-Night Cruise from **\$899**
+ taxes & fees \$732
INCLUDES airfare to Shanghai, 3 nights central accom, 5-night cruise sailing roundtrip from Shanghai. **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom from \$23 per night.

FEATURE

Las Vegas Air + 3 Nights
\$185*
from + taxes & fees \$47
INCLUDES airfare from Bellingham and accom on the Strip.

Long Stays

Australia
Air + 21 Nights + Campervan
\$1379
from + taxes & fees \$511
INCLUDES airfare to Brisbane and campervan rental with linen, cookware and unlimited mileage included.

Event Vacations

Anaheim
Family Special, Air + 3 Nights
\$284
from + taxes & fees \$109



San Diego Easter Family Special
Air + 4 Nights from **\$419**
+ taxes & fees \$113
INCLUDES accom near the harbour during Easter. **BONUS** daily breakfast for kids included. Price per person based on family of 4. **ADD** 3-day Disneyland Resort Park Hopper Bonus Ticket from \$208/adult, \$191/child (ages 3-9). **BOOK** this package based on double occupancy from \$339 per person.

San Francisco Spring Break
Air + 4 Nights from **\$564**
+ taxes & fees \$111
INCLUDES boutique accom in Union Square over Spring Break. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from \$28 per night. **ADD** Urban Safari with Alcatraz tour from \$157.

Toronto Spring Break
Air + 3 Nights 4-Star from **\$564**
+ taxes & fees \$151
INCLUDES Harbourfront accom over Spring Break. **UPGRADE** to 4.5-star accom from \$14 per night. **ADD** Niagara Falls trip from \$146.

New Orleans Jazz Festival
Air + 4 Nights from **\$839**
+ taxes & fees \$120
INCLUDES French Quarter accom during the Jazz Festival. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from \$19 per night. **ADD** jazz cruise from \$43.

USA

Las Vegas Air + 3 Nights
4-Star + Cirque du Soleil
\$349
from + taxes & fees \$116
INCLUDES accom on the Strip. **BONUS** tickets to select Cirque du Soleil or other Las Vegas show included.

Palm Springs
Air + 3 Nights 4-Star from **\$399**
+ taxes & fees \$132
INCLUDES central luxury resort style accom. **ADD** car rental from \$21 per day.

Phoenix Air + 3 Nights 4-Star from **\$544**
+ taxes & fees \$122
INCLUDES all-suite accom in Scottsdale. **BONUS** daily breakfast included. **UPGRADE** to 5-star accom from \$63 per night. **ADD** 3-day car rental with unlimited mileage from \$24 per day.

Canada

Victoria 2 Nights 4-Star
\$134
from + taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom overlooking the Inner Harbour. **UPGRADE** to 4.5-star Fairmont accom from \$39. **ADD** Butchart Gardens from \$26.



Harrison Hot Springs
2 Nights from **\$129**
+ taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom overlooking Harrison Lake. **ADD** 2-day car rental with unlimited mileage from \$33 per day.

Banff Easter, 2 Nights from **\$144**
+ taxes & fees included
INCLUDES downtown accom over Easter. **UPGRADE** to 4.5-star accom from \$33 per night. **ADD** three sisters peak tour from \$143.

Vacations

Frankfurt Air + 7 Nights
\$489
from + taxes & fees \$555

INCLUDES central accom near shopping. **BONUS** daily breakfast included. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from \$13 per night. **ADD** hop-on, hop-off tour from \$25.

London Air + 6 Nights from **\$731**
+ taxes & fees \$601
INCLUDES central accom near Knightsbridge, Chelsea and Hyde park.

Dubai Air + 7 Nights from **\$949**
+ taxes & fees \$549
INCLUDES accom near Jumeirah Beach. **BONUS** daily breakfast included. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from \$26 per night. **ADD** VIP Ferrari World pass from \$110.

Asia & South Pacific

Philippines
Air + 7 Nights 4-Star
\$759
from + taxes & fees \$406

INCLUDES central accom in Manila. **BONUS** daily breakfast included. **UPGRADE** to 5-star accom from \$44 per night. **ADD** Pagsanjan Falls trip from \$137.

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Balanced books sought as vote nears

► General corporate income-tax rate could increase by one point to 11% effective April 1, 2014

The B.C. Liberal government delivered a tight provincial budget Tuesday, signalling it is headed into a yearlong campaign to convince voters it's the party that can deliver fiscal responsibility while still doling out some modest goodies.

The budget promises the books will be balanced by the end of the next year, an effort to allow the party to head into the May 2013 provincial election with its record of managing the economy somewhat burnished after some bad years, including the disastrous repercussions of implementing and then backing out of the harmonized sales tax.

To get there, Finance Minister Kevin Falcon has promised to reduce the growth of health-care spending to 3.2 per cent by the end of 2015. That compares with an almost five per cent increase between 2010 and 2012 and a seven per cent increase in the three years prior to that.

He broadly hinted his government will turn away from its groundbreaking carbon tax, an environmental legacy of former premier Gordon Campbell that was approved by B.C. voters dur-



► Finance Minister Kevin Falcon tables the provincial budget as Premier Christy Clark listens at the B.C. legislature in Victoria Tuesday.

ing the 2009 election when the Opposition New Democrats ran against it.

And he said a proposed tax cut for small businesses would not be implemented and larger businesses may have to pay higher corporate taxes

if the economy doesn't improve.

The budget Falcon tabled forecasts a deficit of \$968 million this year and a surplus of \$154 million in 2013-2014.

The deficit for the budget that wraps up the cur-

rent 2011-2012 fiscal year on March 31 is forecast to hit \$2.5 billion, better than the \$3.1-billion deficit Falcon projected last fall.

"Keeping British Columbia's fiscal house in order does mean some tough

decisions in the short-term," Falcon said during his speech to members of the B.C. legislature. "But consider what's at stake here. It's our future — the future of this province, and the future of our people." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Highlights

Here's a look at the some of the major points in B.C.'s 2013 budget:

- **Projected economic growth:** 1.8 per cent in 2012-2013; 2.2 per cent in 2013-2014; 2.5 per cent in 2014-2015.
- **Projected deficit:** \$968 million for 2012-2013.
- **Balanced budget:** B.C. projects the budget to be balanced next year with a \$154-million surplus for 2013-2014 and a \$250-million surplus for 2014-2015.
- **Tax increase:** The small-business corporate-tax rate was to drop to zero with the HST in place. Now, it will remain at 2.5 per cent. The general corporate income-tax rate could increase by one point to 11 per cent effective April 1, 2014, if the increase is needed to ensure the budget is balanced.
- **Goodies:** There will be an income-tax credit worth \$10,000 for first-time home buyers purchasing newly built homes. The bonus begins phasing out for individuals and families earning a net income of \$150,000 and is eliminated completely for individuals earning \$200,000 in net income and families earning \$250,000 net income.

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PROVINCE

Budget gives, takes from families

B.C. families are being offered some tax breaks in their 2012-2013 budget, but qualifying for the goodies will be a lot harder than being eligible for the tax increases.

Finance Minister Kevin Falcon announced up to \$10,000 in personal income-tax credits for those buying their first, brand-new home.

Only those who have never owned a home before and one that's newly built — or a home that's

been so massively renovated that only 10 per cent of the original structure remains — will qualify for the benefit.

And the credit is income-tested: Only families earning up to \$150,000 in net income will be eligible for it.

"Every young person out there today understands the challenges of getting into the housing market," Falcon said in his budget speech.

"As parents and grandparents, we worry about the struggles our children and grandchildren have trying to save for their first home."

Falcon said the tax credit is aimed at helping out with that struggle, and has the added benefit

of supporting the new-home construction sector, a sector hit hard by the introduction of the HST.

And families who want a cottage at the beach or on the slopes — or at least one that's outside the Vancouver and Victoria areas — could be eligible for a provincial grant of up to \$42,500 on recreational properties priced up to \$850,000, effective April 1.

Anyone with children and sports or arts activities will now be able to claim the cost of those programs up to \$500 per child, per year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Pension time bomb?

► Minister to younger Canadians: Reforms now — or you'll pay later

The federal government on Tuesday aimed its pension-cutting pitch at younger Canadians.

Human Resources Minister Diane Finley said in Toronto the coming federal budget will define major changes to old-age security, the program that gives about \$500 a month to 98 per cent of people over 65.

Unless the government acts now, younger Canadians will face impossible choices of higher taxes, higher deficits or fewer social programs, she said.

"We cannot allow ourselves to be pegged into a situation where we are faced with a choice between the country's financial security, and our commitment to aging Canadians who have worked long and hard to build this great nation."

Finley added: "We will



► Human Resources Minister Diane Finley, pictured in Toronto on Tuesday, gave her personal guarantee that current retirees won't be touched.

need to ensure that our government has the fiscal room to meet the various needs of an aging population ... without putting an undue tax burden on younger generations."

While other countries have acted to increase the age of eligibility to keep in

"Pushing seniors into poverty is not leadership."

NEW DEMOCRAT MP
MATTHEW KELLWAY, SPEAKING
AFTER FINLEY'S SPEECH

line with aging populations, Canada has stood

still, she said. "It's ticking along as if things haven't changed demographically in 50 years."

Finley did not say how changes would affect low-income seniors who depend on pension benefits to stay above water.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

50% INCREASE

NDP ranks soar on eve of vote

A record number of card-carrying New Democrats are eligible to choose the federal party's next leader, with British Columbia and Ontario holding the key to victory.

Final membership numbers released Tuesday by the party show

membership has swelled to 128,351, an increase of just over 50 per cent since the start of the leadership contest last October.

All members are entitled to cast ballots, starting March 1 and culminating in a leadership convention on March 24.

British Columbia, with 38,735 members, and Ontario, with 36,760, will have the most influence over which of the seven contenders is victorious.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Parents fit for trial

The parents of a toddler whose remains were found in a suitcase in Jamaica have been declared fit to stand trial.

The couple appeared in a Jamaican court and were remanded until March 2.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Veterans get pledge

Ottawa will make it easier for veterans to understand their disability benefits.

It promises to improve the information given to veterans as to why they have been awarded or denied benefits.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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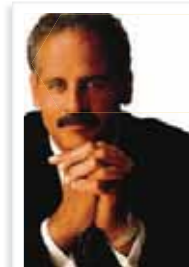
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Food blocked by al-Shabab: Kenyan army

► Southern Somalia on brink of humanitarian crisis, say officials

The Kenyan army is blaming militants for blocking the movement of food and other goods into southern Somalia, which officials say is in the beginning stages of a humanitarian crisis.

Khadra Muhamud Aden, a Somali woman in her 80s, says food supplies are running low because there is no way to transport food from either the Kenyan border or the Somali port of Kismayo because of fighting between Kenyan troops and the al-Qaida-affiliated Somali militant group al-Shabab. The cutting of food supplies has slowed the Kenyan army's advance to-

Kenya's stance

► Kenya sent hundreds of troops into Somalia in October to pursue al-Shabab militants whom it accuses for cross-border attacks and the kidnapping of ten Kenyans and four Europeans, which threatened to destroy Kenya's tourism industry, a key source of revenue for the economy.

ward Kismayo. Troops are delivering food aid in an attempt to win favour in areas formerly controlled by al-Shabab. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Mouth. Shut



► A Palestinian woman holds a poster depicting Islamic Jihad member Khader Adnan with a locked mouth during a demonstration in Jerusalem Tuesday.

BERNAT ARMANGUE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Free to end hunger strike

Adnan agreed to end his 66-day hunger strike protesting his imprisonment without charge, after reaching a deal with Israel that will free him in April, the Israeli Justice Ministry said Tuesday.

Afghans outraged over burned Qur'ans

The U.S. apologized Tuesday for the burning of Muslim holy books that had been pulled from the shelves of a detention centre library adjoining a major base in eastern Afghanistan because they contained extremist messages or inscriptions.

The White House echoed military officials in saying that the burning of Qur'ans and other Islamic reading material that had been tossed in a pile of garbage was an accident.

But more than 2,000



► Afghan protesters shout slogans in front of the U.S. base of Bagram, Tuesday.

Afghans protested the incident outside the Bagram Air Base that stoked rising anti-foreign sentiment and fueled Afghan claims that foreign troops disrespect their culture and religion.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Judge defends ruling for abortion

A retired Massachusetts judge is defending her decision to order a mentally ill woman to have an abortion and be sterilized against

her wishes. Christina Harms, who retired last month, defended her ruling in a letter she sent Monday to other Massachusetts family court judges, saying she believed the schizophrenic woman would have chosen to have an abortion if she had been mentally competent. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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RIM releases PlayBook update



DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

► An employee holds a BlackBerry Playbook tablet at Research in Motion's annual meeting in July 2011.

► Analysts say the long-delayed announcement may come too late for the struggling company, which still lags behind in the growing tablet market

Ten months after the release of Research in Motion's first tablet, the device finally has an app to access email.

But analysts say it may be too late for the Waterloo, Ont.-based company to

make a dent in the tablet market, particularly with a new iPad rumoured to be on the way, possibly within weeks.

RIM released an update for its PlayBook tablet Tuesday, adding a host of fea-

tures including the ability to access email without connecting to a BlackBerry or using a web-based account. The email app can consolidate corporate and personal accounts as well as messages from social networks.

The 2.0 version of the PlayBook operating system also includes new calendar, contact and video chat apps, and an updated version of BlackBerry Bridge.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tablet trounced

- According to a survey by the Media Technology Monitor, about 11 per cent of anglophone Canadians said they owned a tablet late last year.
- The vast majority, about 71 per cent, said they owned an iPad, while 13 per cent said they had a PlayBook. Another 13 per cent said they had a competing tablet device.

U.K. court OK's serving claims via Facebook

Status update: You're sued.

Legal authorities said Tuesday that a High Court judge in England has approved the use of Facebook to serve legal claims.

Lawyers in a commercial dispute were granted permission last week to serve a suit against a defendant via the popular social networking site.

Justice Nigel Teare permitted the unconventional method of service during a pretrial hearing into a case which pits two investment managers against a brokerage firm they accuse of overcharging them.

A former trader and an

ex-broker, Fabio De Biase and Anjam Ahmad, are also alleged to have been in on the scam.

Jenni Jenkins, who represents Ahmad, said lawyers in the case had been trying to track De Biase in order to serve him with legal documents. The lawyers didn't have his email address, so they applied for permission to send him the claim through Facebook.

De Biase was given extra time to respond to the claim "to allow for the possibility that he wasn't accessing his account regularly," Jenkins added.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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			Gold \$1,758.50 US (+ \$32.60 US)

AP/WIDE WORLD

December sales down: StatsCan

HOLIDAY RETAIL. Canadian shoppers reined in spending before Christmas this year as retail sales slumped 0.2 per cent in December despite apparent deep discount sales from stores.

The fall-off followed a revised 0.4 per cent pop in November, an indication that shoppers had both completed their Christmas shopping early and were cautious consumers during the holiday season, analysts said.

In total, sales were worth \$38.6 billion to retailers in the final month of 2011. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chorus pairing with Air Canada to counter WestJet

REGIONAL AIRLINES. The parent company of regional carrier Jazz Air will work to help Air Canada compete with Calgary-based WestJet when their rival launches a low-fare airline serving smaller domestic markets, Chorus Aviation chief executive Joe Randell said Tuesday.

Randell said the agreement with Air Canada covers 83 destinations, with 125 Jazz aircraft operating for the main airline.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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AND THE AWARD FOR LARGEST DEMOGRAPHIC GOES TO ...

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO



The Oscars are coming up this Sunday.

I love the Oscars — the glitz, the fun, the drama, the suspense.

Of course, when my favourite movie doesn't win and some piece of schmaltz does, I'm left braying at the TV: "Who voted for Driving Miss Daisy? Who are these people? Don't they know anything?"

Now, thanks to the LA Times, I have the answer, which is: People Just Like Me.

After an exhaustive and pointless investigation — pointless because even though millions are starving and the planet is in peril, the LA Times is squandering precious dwindling journalistic resources on revealing the demographic makeup of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences — the results confirm your worst nightmare.

Ninety-four per cent of the people who vote the Oscars are white. Seventy-seven per cent are male. Their median age is 62, and just 14 per cent of the membership is under 50.

Two per cent are black.

This explains a lot. Like why Steven Spielberg must be nominated for something every year, even if it's War Horse. Steven Spielberg is the king of all the old white guys.

It explains why your little indie fave did not get nominated for best picture. Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, which stars Tom Hanks, the duke of all the old white guys, did.

It explains why Bob Hope hosted the Oscars 18 times and why Billy Crystal's back this year, after Oscar's tragic experiment with the under-50 demographic last year. Remember James Franco and Anne Hathaway? Why send a couple of dumb kids out to do an old white guy's job when you can get Billy?

Eddie Murphy was supposed to host the Oscars this year, but quit to support show producer Brett Ratner (old white guy) who was fired for an alleged racial slur. How's that for irony?

Anyway, now that Billy's back, order has been restored in the old-white-guy universe, and we can get on with voting for Steve.

The problem, as anyone who ever hangs out in west L.A. knows, is that almost everyone in the movie business is an old white guy, and it's really hard to break in unless, like their descendants, you "know somebody." So if you're black, Latino, female and — especially — under 50, shut up and go to Sundance.

That said, the boys are suckers for interracial drama (see Driving Miss Daisy). And The Help, which takes a timely, fearless look at interracial drama circa 1963, is nominated this year. So my peeps are going to have a tough time deciding between that and Steve Who Must Be Nominated.

My money's on The Help. We may be old, but we're enlightened.

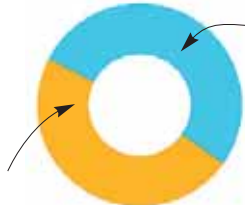
Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying



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metropolitanpanel.ca
and take the quick poll

Do you think Wi-Fi should be banned in schools?

48%
OF COURSE
NOT. THERE'S
NO EVIDENCE
IT'S HARMFUL



52%
YES, WE SHOULD
BE CAUTIOUS
ABOUT THE
EFFECTS
TECHNOLOGY MAY
HAVE ON KIDS

Local tweets



@sports

netmurph: His orange hair represents the cheese. RT @TheStanchion: John Garrett confirms what we've all suspected. He is a hamburger.

@jeffnagel: Less garbage leads @MetroVancouver to downsize waste-fired plant: ow.ly/9cPBc Not necessarily an incinerator, despite single RFP

@ArtemChubarov: Raymond creates a chance, then makes a minor mistake that leads to an of-

fensive zone face-off. What a disappointment to us all. #Canucks

@AllianceArts: Growing #BCBudget has no increase for the arts. Frozen for three years. Here's the main budget page - ow.ly/9cUqo

@AlanaJonesy: Loosen up the purse strings, Kevin Falcon. #BCbudget

@tiffanyslain: I am sitting in the hotel bar in #Vancouver and this piano player is breaking my heart.

@Rosger: Loving that sun for tomorrow's weather forecast, everyone could use a little extra boost I think #Vancouver

Daily Zoom

Incredible bubble



Photographer makes 'pop art'

MACROPHOTOGRAPHY. It's the humble bubble, revealed in extraordinary, psychedelic detail. Amateur photographer Jane Thomas's close-up shots capture the stunning patterns that form in soapy water before it is blown out through an ordinary bubble wand. Thomas told Metro she discovered "bubble art" while washing dishes.

● MWN

60 seconds



Jane Thomas, 58, retired music teacher and amateur photographer from Ayrshire, southwest Scotland.

How did you discover "bubble art"?

I was doing the washing

up! I saw some soap suds inside a grill pan. On closer inspection, I noticed they were changing colour and developing patterns. Straight away I thought it would be a great subject for macrophotography, so I forgot about the dishes and got out the camera!

Do you add colours to this bubble mixture?

No, I just use washing-up liquid or shampoo — the thicker and less diluted, the better, so that patterns move slower and

last longer. Like fingerprints, no two patterns are ever the same — only more colourful. The colours are natural and anyone can see them with the naked eye if they hold a flat film of soap in a ring and hold it up to the light.

What inspired you to take such colourful photographs?

My husband Geoffrey. Although he is totally blind, years of describing things to him has made me more observant. I notice things in more detail these days.

● ANTHONY JOHNSTON

Rihanna, Brown reunite

► On Monday, they both put out tracks featuring each other ► We all remember what happened three years ago ► Should we applaud their collaboration, or be appalled?

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
SCENE@METRONWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS

You'll never forget that image of Rihanna from 2009, after she was beaten by her then-boyfriend, R&B singer Chris Brown. But can you forgive? Apparently, Rihanna can: On Monday, she released a remix of her hit song *Birthday Cake* featuring an appearance by Brown.

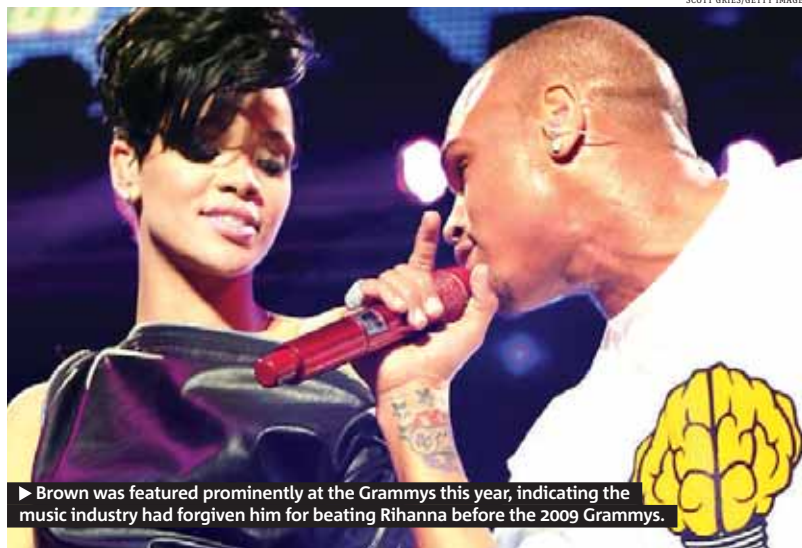
"I've been missing your body," he raps, while she adds: "I know you wanna bite this, it's so enticing." (The YouTube video she posted has no images, just text that says: "Yikes.")

Meanwhile, Brown released a track called *Turn Up the Music* with vocals by Rihanna.

Earlier that day — Rihanna's 24th birthday — the duo also tweeted one another sweet messages.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROBYN," wrote Brown, using her birth name. Rihanna thanked him via retweet, just minutes later.

Their apparent reconciliation comes after controversy last week, when Brown was featured prominently at the Grammys, in-



► Brown was featured prominently at the Grammys this year, indicating the music industry had forgiven him for beating Rihanna before the 2009 Grammys.

dicating the music industry has also forgiven him.

Tweeting after the show last week, musician Miranda Lambert wrote: "Where I come from, beating up on a woman is never OK."

The whole drama leaves us wondering what this says to women who have been victims of assault within a romantic relationship.

Dr. Sheri Jacobson, clinical director of Harley Therapy, a psychotherapy centre,

believes it could send a disturbing message about how maltreatment can be overlooked, or even accepted: "In a romantic sense, it has the danger of a creating a false reality as not everyone has the mental or emotional capacity for change," she tells Metro.

"Hopefully it won't encourage people to look up to Rihanna and Brown as a new ideal, and make them think it's OK to go back to a violent partner."

On the other hand, Brown seems to have learned from his mistakes. He has apologized on television for the 2009 incident.

"I'd like to think that we can believe in people to repair, heal and develop," says Jacobson. "Brown appears to have learned his lesson and has certainly paid heavily for his behaviour toward Rihanna. In that light, it would be distressing if they were to be frowned upon — one strike

Fans react

After the birthday tweets between Brown and Rihanna, followers responded with a flurry of mixed reactions.



► **Optimism:** "C'mon guys - I love ya together!!!! Get back together! If ya really love each other! Efff these haterZ! <3 muahzz!," one fan tweeted.

► **Concern:** Another follower was less enthusiastic, tweeting to Rihanna, "Remember bobby brown and Whitney Houston and what happen to her thanks to him. I love ur singing and don't want anything to happen to you <3."

and he's out.

"If you really care for someone," she continues, "as seems to be the case here, you tend to overlook and tolerate their behaviour. You can't carry it through without some kind of human emotion, romantic or not.

And whatever happens between them, people will always be watching."

Will Good Deeds go unnoticed?

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONWS.CA



Most "name" directors have a trademark that makes their movies instantly recognizable. Is there a long tracking shot? Must be Scorsese. How about a blue sun flare? That's Spielberg. A car trunk shot? Thanks Tarantino. A man in drag as a pistol-packing grandmother? Well that would be Tyler Perry. His trademark isn't as auspicious as, say, John Woo's slow motion

doves, but what Tyler's movies lack stylistically they generally make up in box office success.

This weekend's *Good Deeds* isn't likely to make Tyler's name synonymous with auteur, but when Forbes calls you the highest paid man in entertainment — he took home \$130 million between May 2010 and 2011 — no other title really matters. But what if you've never seen a Tyler Perry movie? For the uninitiated, here's a checklist of how to spot a Perry film.

1. Is there a character named Mabel (Madea) Simmons? She is the cornerstone on which Perry built

his empire. Perry has played the argumentative character in dozens of productions on stage, TV and in movies like *Madea Goes to Jail*. Entertainment Weekly put the character on its end-of-the-decade "best-of" list saying, "Tyler Perry's *Madea* is the profane, gun-toting granny you never had but (maybe) wish you did." Weird accent — she says things like, "Hal-luluy! Praise da lort!" — and bad behaviour aside, *Madea* is usually used to teach a lesson.

2. Is the story melodramatic, up-lifting and/or redemptive? While none of those traits are exclusive to Per-

ry's films, he manages to highlight the melodramatic aspects of his stories in ways not usually seen outside of *The Young and the Restless*. As for uplift and redemption, Perry's deeply held religious beliefs bleed into his films and plots, which frequently reference Christian values. "I don't want to do movies just to do movies," he says. "I want to do movies that inspire, motivate and change lives."

3. Do the critics hate it? If so, it might be a

Perry film. His average Rotten Tomatoes rating clocks in around 50 per cent, and The Times suggests that his movies have "a little something for everyone, as long as you're not expecting too much." Does Perry care? Not so much. "The high-brow. They don't get it," he says.

4. Lastly, and this is the dead give-away, most of his films have his name in the title.



► Tyler Perry

GETTY IMAGES

2
scene

Queen concert



Former American Idol singer Adam Lambert is joining landmark rock band Queen for one concert this summer, at Sonisphere 2012. Queen's Brian May and Roger Taylor confirmed Tuesday that the American singer-songwriter will perform vocals for the band's headline set on the second day of the Sonisphere 2012 rock festival. The concert takes place July 7 at Knebworth Park in Stevenage, north of London. Lambert, 30, has sung with Queen before. In 2009 he performed *We Are the Champions* on the U.S. reality show that made his name and then last November he sang an eight-minute set at the MTV Europe Awards to celebrate Queen's Global Icon Award. Freddie Mercury's final concert with Queen also took place at Knebworth, in August 1986.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Canuck sound editor David Giammarco goes from tire factory to Oscar red carpet.

Aniston denies being latest home wrecker

► Former Friends' star also squashes rumours she is pregnant with triplets

Since Justin Theroux broke up with his girlfriend of 14 years shortly before getting together with Jennifer Aniston, the former Friends star has been dodging claims that she's a home wrecker. But Aniston insists she and Theroux — who met while filming Wanderlust — didn't get together until later.

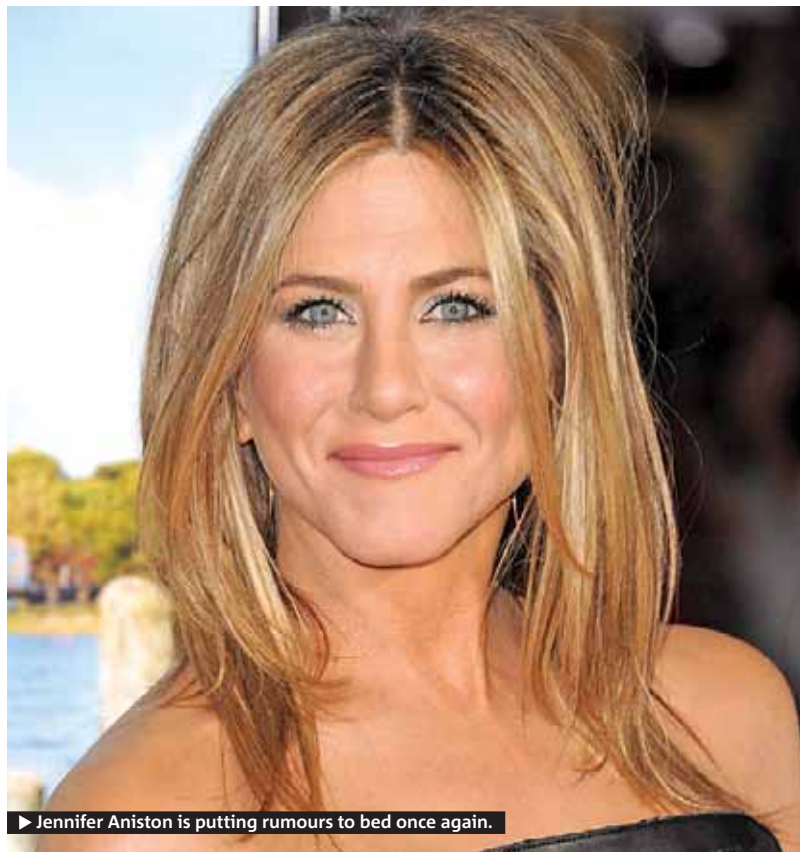
"Nothing happened on that movie," she tells GQ magazine. "It's a rumour — it's the easy rumour, but nothing happened. We were just friends."

Speaking of rumours, Aniston continues to use her current press tour to clear up a few stories floating around about her.

"I'm not having triplets. Not having twins. Nor am I having one baby. I did not elope," she tells the magazine. "The one time I do say, 'Yes! I'm pregnant!' they'll be like, 'Pfft. Right.'" **• METRO**

"It's a rumour — it's the easy rumour, but nothing happened."

JENNIFER ANISTON



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

► Jennifer Aniston is putting rumours to bed once again.

Talking points

Sheen offers an apology to Kutcher

BUT NO APOLOGY FOR THE SHOW. Charlie Sheen clearly had second thoughts about his recent harsh words about Ashton Kutcher and the new season of Two and a Half Men, as he's issued an apology to his sitcom replacement — via TMZ, of course.

"Dear Ashton. My bad. I was disrespectful to a man doing his best," Sheen writes. "I got excited and threw you into the crossfire, but the rest of my statement I stand behind. You however, deserve better. Safety in your travels sir."

The part of his previous tirade that he's not apologizing for?

"I'm tired of pretending the show doesn't suck," he said, adding that Kutcher is "saddled with bad writing."

• METRO

Beckham hits back at critics

FIRST WORLD PROBLEMS Victoria Beckham is striking back at critics who have said she's been looking miserable lately.

"Look, if people want to say I'm miserable then so be it," Beckham tells the Sunday Mirror, explaining



that she's just exhausted from the combination of having new baby girl Harper to care for and a fashion line to oversee.

"And then people want to say I look crap. Well, I'm a working mom, so give me a break. I'd like there to be a break but I very much doubt it's going to happen any time soon. When Harper sleeps that will be my break."

• METRO

Celebrity tweets



"I'm feeling so good this morning that I set my doomsday watch back by a whole minute."

@AlbertBrooks



@lindsaylohan

"iTunes is DRIVING ME INSANE... why does it do this? It literally, is LYING to me and saying that my security code is NOT correct & IT IS!"

@CeeLoGreen

"2012 is mine"



@Joan_Rivers

"Just found out I will not be a presenter at next week's Oscars. I did, however, get a callback for the 'death reel!'"

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052411

A new side of Florida

► From Dali to animatronic dolphins, here's a side of Florida you never knew existed
► David Downing, of the St. Pete and Clearwater visitor bureau, shares what's hot this winter

DOROTHY ROBINSON
LIFE@METRONews.ca

Great for families

"Parents magazine just rated our Fort DeSoto Park the No. 1 Family Beach in the USA," Downing says. He attributes this ranking to the fact the shallow beach is "almost like a swimming pool." The picnic areas, campgrounds and bike rentals all add to the family-friendly destination.



► The pier at Fort DeSoto.

THROUGH A LENS DARKLY/FLICKR

Pack your shades

Leave the umbrella at home. "We hold the world record for the most consecutive days of sunshine," boasts Downing. "We had 762 days of sunshine — in a row."

Live the movies

You can meet Winter, the world's most famous animatronic dolphin and inspiration for the film *Dolphin Tale*, at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. The exhibit Winter's Dolphin Tale Adventure showcases Winter as well as sets from the film.

SUPERWEBDEVELOPER/FLICKR



Meet Florida's cultural side

The Dali Museum just celebrated their first anniversary of a new facility, according to Downing. "It's the most comprehensive collection of Dali's work in the world," he says.

October will mark the first major visiting exhibition by Jeff Koons.

Also a must-see? The Museum of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg — the new director led the education department at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York for 18 years.

Drink up!

Although St. Petersburg might have a reputation as a sleepy beach town, Downing boasts that the nightlife is world-class.

"In a five-block radius, there are 25 bars, restaurants, nightclubs, dancing, live music — and most stay open until 3 a.m."

He tells us one of the best things about St. Petersburg is the convenient fact that you don't need a car.

"If you stay in our downtown, you can just walk around or rent a golf car for a couple of bucks to hit all of the sites," he says.



► St. Petersburg at night.

FIFTH WORLD ART/FLICKR

3

life

Travel in brief



Florida's tourism agency says a record 85.9 million people visited the state last year. Visit Florida said that the estimated total was a 4.4 per cent increase over 2010 and the highest number since 2007. The number shows Florida tourism — the state's leading industry — has rebounded from a crippling recession and 2010 oil spill that kept visitors away from its beaches and attractions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Just in time for Carnival: A beginner's guide to Brazil's city of contrasts

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A silent journey

► With the new silent film *The Artist* nominated for best picture at the Academy Awards this weekend, it's time to embrace some silent film history

From around 1910 to the late 1920s, the silent film industry dominated Los Angeles. Without permits, unions or worries about sound, filmmakers could just grab a camera and shoot scenes on the spot, transforming various L.A. locales into any place the script called for.

The Artist, a Golden Globe winner and Oscar contender that harkens back to the lost art of telling a story in black and white, without talking, has renewed interest in that early genre.

Fortunately, many of the locations where exteriors were filmed during the silent film era still exist today, and you can find them hidden around the city.

"Southern California was perfectly situated" as a backdrop for all types of movie settings, said film historian John Bengtson, author of a number of books about the era, including *Silent Traces: Discovering Early Hollywood Through the Films of Charlie Chaplin*.

"There was a diversity of geological features, the beach, desert," Bengtson said. "There were rough terrains for the Westerns. There were mountains. There were lakes. Downtown Los Angeles was a thriving city, so you got



► The Jim Henson Company Lot boasts an image of Charlie Chaplin. The lot was originally built for Charlie Chaplin Studios in 1918.

your urban shots. It was just ideal."

Bengtson started researching then-and-now locations from scenes in the films of silent comedy stars Buster Keaton, Charlie Chaplin and Harold Lloyd more than 15 years ago, without the help of the Internet. He's since identified dozens of locations, and has conducted various silent film walking tours.

One famous image from that era that lives on shows Lloyd clumsily climbing up the side of a building in downtown Los Angeles to escape a police officer in the 1923 romantic comedy *Safety Last!*

Lloyd, in his signature straw hat and round horn-rimmed glasses, then grasps onto a large clock on the building. He hangs on for dear life with traffic rushing far below.

The building in downtown L.A. where Lloyd shot that famed clock scene still stands, at 908 S. Broadway. The clock, constructed specifically for the movie, doesn't.

A building facade was actually built on the 908 S. Broadway building's roof, along with a camera tower to film the set, in order to create the illusion of steep height, keeping the building's roof out of frame, but with actual views of the street below, said Bengtson.

"They didn't have CGI (computer generated imagery) then. They did have glass paintings," said Randy Haberkamp, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' director of educational programming. "They would paint out part of the city. You would see a famous hill in the Los Ange-



► Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy used this staircase for a scene in their films *Hats Off* and *The Music Box*.

les area, and you would say, 'Where was that house there?' The artists of that era were so clever."

Kansas-born actor and director Keaton is best known for silent films from the late 1920s like *Steamboat Bill Jr.* and *The General*, set in the American Civil War.

In his 1921 short film *Hard Luck*, a suicidal and broke Keaton gets into all sorts of shenanigans, including being chased by a bear and unsuccessfully trying to hang himself.

At one point, eluding po-



► Harold Lloyd famously hung off a clock on this building in *Safety Last!*

If you go...

- **Silent movie locations:** Detailed information on books, tours and history from film historian John Bengtson at silentlocations.wordpress.com

fore settling into his Charlie Chaplin Studios, 1416 N. La Brea Ave., in the heart of Hollywood.

The structure is now the Jim Henson Company Lot, with a statue of Henson creation Kermit the Frog dressed as Chaplin in his recognizable hat and jacket above the main gate. Concrete footprints of Chaplin are also there.

"Sometimes, when it comes to talking, sometimes less is more. I think people who love silent films really appreciate body language and other things that are communicated.

"There's a deeper human understanding that you can get," said Haberkamp.

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The deep secrets of Lake Tahoe

► Delve into some of the glamorous history in Lake Tahoe ► It's the perfect place for history buffs and hikers

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN



DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONews.ca

When all the glam and glare of the Vegas

lights get a bit too bright, not far away lies a little haven of casino history, set against one of the most stunning and scenic backdrops in Nevada.

Back in the day, Lake Tahoe was 'the' place where stars, dignitaries, and even the notorious Rat Pack came to stay and play while recharging their famous batteries.



► Lake Tahoe offers a respite from the lights of Las Vegas.

Now, being a major Sinatra fan, it was a particular thrill to pull up to the front entrance of the very retro, very cool, very old school Cal Neva Lodge, especially since it almost seemed as though Frank, Dean and Sammy might still be crooning a tune inside the Frank Sinatra showroom.

In fact Frank owned the resort for a few years back

in the '60s. Even the big neon sign out front hasn't changed much since the Rat Pack hung out here.

Once inside it was like walking back in time. Some slots still actually worked with real coins instead of high-tech player cards.

One of the main draw cards for me, despite my claustrophobia, was the little-known secret underground tunnel tour.



► The Rat Pack

Four days a week, Neva offers visitors a chance to go deep underground, to experience a little known piece of celebrity history. I felt like I was entering an ancient brick dungeon, as our guide explained this cramped tunnel was built so Sinatra could hide from the throngs during his daily

Other cool things to do in Lake Tahoe

- **Take a self-guided snowmobile tour:** Roar through the Sierras in style with your own personal machine.
- **Whitewater rafting:** Take a wild and wet ride on the Truckee river. Brave the class three rapids through the high Sierra desert on an 11-kilometre guided adventure courtesy of Tributary White Water tours.

trip from his luxury cabin out back, to the casino showroom. Deep in the bowels of this dark and spooky passageway, I noticed a small X marked on

the wall, which, it turns out, marks a very notorious spot. This is supposedly the exact place where then-president John F. Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe consummated their clandestine relationship, while unsuspecting gamblers spent their money on the casino floor directly above.

"Ring a ding ding!" as Frank would say. That's some entertaining folklore for the \$10 tour price. The Cal Neva and other Tahoe casinos still have that intimate small-town feel. Despite the fact Tahoe has obviously expanded over the years, it has managed to retain its natural beauty. Where else can you ski and hike amid stunning scenery all morning, and still get back to the casino in time to lose the kids college money by nightfall?

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My favourite spot in Canada**ERIC PETERSON:
QU'APPELLE VALLEY, SASK.**

My favourite place in Canada would be the Qu'Appelle Valley in Saskatchewan, specifically Lake Katepwa.

I grew up in Saskatchewan and we had a cottage there. It's a very beautiful valley and kind of unexpected (in this area). I think that is one of the wonders of it.

It runs north and to the east of Regina. The name Qu'Appelle is from a Cree legend. Evidently an Aboriginal person — a young brave — was returning by canoe up the lakes and he hears his name called as his wife is dying and he says "Qu'Appelle" ("Who is calling?" or "Qui appelle?" in French). His name is the last word she says and by

the time he gets there she has died. But he heard her call.

The real surprise is it's in the prairie part of the province — three-quarters of Saskatchewan is like Ontario — but in the prairie part from Prince Albert down it's the Prairies.

Driving along Highway 56 you have no indication that there is anything but prairies and then suddenly you come over this hill and it's quite breathtaking.

Of course I'm very biased to it because I spent all my summers there as a kid.

ERIC PETERSON IS CURRENTLY STARRING IN THE CROW'S THEATRE PRODUCTION OF SEEDS AT THE YOUNG CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS IN TORONTO. CROWSTHEATRE.COM

DLITZ/FICKR



Classic flavours for a timeless flick

► This Sunday, the stars will gather in Hollywood for the Academy Awards ► Here, we take a look back at an early classic that won best picture — complete with themed snacks to serve at your Oscar party

MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Casablanca**In The Chips:
Casablanca**

Everybody comes to Rick's Café Américain in the movie Casablanca, whether it's for cocktails, food, forged letters of transit or hopes of winning big at roulette.

Though you'll likely want to stick to the first two.

If you're looking to gamble on something new, why not try some potato chip cookies, a twist on the traditional snack.

We can't guarantee your friends will be shocked — shocked! — but they may

be mildly surprised.

**Potato Chip Cookies
Preparation:**

1 In the bowl of an electric mixer, beat together the unsalted butter, with brown sugar.

2 Add the egg and beat again. Add the flour, baking powder, finely crushed potato chips and sliced almonds. Mix just until combined.

Ingredients:

- 125 ml (1/2 cup) unsalted butter
- 250 ml (1 packed cup) of brown sugar
- 1 egg

- 500 ml (2 cups) flour
- 5 ml (1 tsp) baking powder
- 250 ml (1 cup) finely crushed potato chips
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sliced almonds

3 Scoop by teaspoonful onto parchment-lined baking sheets and bake for 10 to 12 minutes in a 180 C (350 F) oven.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Moroccan
Sour Cocktail**

Here's a recipe for a spicy whiskey sour that would be right at home in the '40s nightclub scene that serves as the background for Casablanca's story of love and war.

Preparation:

1 In double old-fashioned glass, stir together whiskey, lemon juice, sugar, ginger, turmeric and cinnamon until sugar is completely dissolved. Add 1 ice cube and top with a splash of seltzer water. Garnish with a lemon twist.

Ingredients:

- 60 ml (2 oz) whiskey
- Juice of half a lemon
- 5 ml (1 tsp) sugar
- Pinch dry ground ginger
- Pinch of turmeric
- Pinch of cinnamon
- Seltzer water or club soda
- Lemon twist, for garnish

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Don't let rejection stall your job search process

► It's easy to get discouraged during a job hunt ► Don't wallow if things aren't working out ► A 'no' means you can focus on other opportunities



LAUREN STEIN
TALENTEGG.CA

It's a rush getting that email or phone call — when those hours of rewriting, reformatting and self-branding have inspired someone to ask whether the flesh-and-blood You might be available to meet.

I was bursting with anticipation when I recently discovered, thanks to some LinkedIn sleuthing, an opening for a social media/communications position at a company that just happened to employ an old acquaintance of mine.

I sent my contact a message immediately, pouncing on the opportunity.

As a recent graduate of the Concordia University creative writing program, let me tell you, the worst part isn't getting that rejection letter — it's waiting for it to arrive.

The best part of working your network is that waiting is almost non-existent. I heard back from my contact the same day, not only with a request for my paper-self, but an inquiry about my availabilities so that an interview could be scheduled.

Within hours I had an interview set and some pep in my step.

Things got a little murky when, the following day, my contact had to swap our interview to another time, and I proactively suggested a place and time. I never received a confirmation.

Fast-forward to the scheduled time and place: I decided to assume that no response leaned toward the affirmative. I was prepared, dressed appropriately, arrived early. And I waited. I waited for a half hour before I sent my contact a message to ask if we were still meeting. I waited another 15 minutes to see if maybe he got lost/stuck in traffic/couldn't find parking/slept in.

I eventually did get a response from my contact,



► Lauren Stein

stating that the position had already been filled.

Like most things that involve putting yourself out there (job hunting, writing, dating, Canadian Idol auditions), the easiest thing to do is get discouraged. If you've just graduated, whether you're working part-time or volunteering alongside your job search process, don't wallow if things aren't working out.

Where I am now
I'm still on the prowl for ca-

reer-launching employment, but am currently part-timing at a coffee house and I've applied to the creative book publishing post-grad certificate program at Humber College. I'm also writing and submitting my work to various literary magazines, for which, even after 100 days of waiting, I always get some kind of response.

TALENTEGG.CA, CANADA'S LEADING ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADS, WANTS TO HEAR YOUR STUDENT VOICE. SHARE IT AT TALENTEGG.CA.

Key take-aways

- Use your network — it's not a sure thing, but it will get you talking to the right people
- Don't get discouraged by rejection
- Find an activity or hobby unrelated to job hunting that you enjoy

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DANIEL LUBLIN
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Workplace law never ceases to amaze me — whether employer or employee, one side is always trying to take advantage of the other.

Here are just a few of the questions I was asked this week:

Can I fire an employee on maternity leave?

The answer should be no, as reinstatement is required at the end of the leave.

However, due to a loophole in the legislation permitting termination only in circumstances unrelated to the leave, it happens all the time.

All an employer must do is claim there is some form of restructuring,

even if it is not true, and the legislation can be circumvented.

Can I fire an employee on disability leave?

Similar to a parental leave, the answer is technically no, but practically yes.

Employees cannot be fired because they are on leave, but employers do so anyway.

They just call it something else and they often get away with it.

Can I look for another job while still employed?

Looking for other work while employed is not illegal. The problem is when it is done using company resources, such as computers and the Internet.

Even sending an application from your personal email account, but through your workplace computer, could be cause for dismissal.

I work through lunch and my breaks all the time. Can I leave work early?

This seems logical but the

law does not permit it.

Employment standards legislation requires a certain amount of break time each day, but it does not permit employees to "trade" their breaks for an early departure.

My employee claims she worked during her vacation. Must I provide her with extra time off?

If an employee was asked to perform any work, technically she should be paid or provided with a substitute day off.

Unfortunately, this rarely occurs.

If an employee works late because she is slow at her work, must I pay for that time?

If overtime is worked, even without authorization, it must be paid.

The problem is that few employers and employees are aware of the actual overtime rules, and therefore, seldom are they followed.

DANIEL LUBLIN IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN.

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Fisher fillets Canucks

► Predators forward has goal, two assists in big home win ► Rinne makes 32 saves



Mike Fisher wasn't feeling all that well when he skated with his Nashville Predators teammates on Tuesday morning.

Flu-like symptoms had sidelined him for Sunday's game at Dallas, and he took the day off on Monday, too. Uncertain if he would be able to play Tuesday night at home against Vancouver, the Predators recalled Chris Mueller from Milwaukee of the AHL for standby insurance.

He wasn't needed. Fisher hit the ice as though nothing was bothering him, scored one goal and assisting on two others in the Predators' 3-1 win over the Canucks on Tuesday night.

"The last couple of days haven't been very fun for him," Nashville coach Barry Trotz said. "I was worried about his energy and strength."

"I thought he had good jump and good energy. He was going up against the Sedin line head-to-head, and I thought he played



► Predators centre Mike Fisher scores against Roberto Luongo.

very strong against them."

The Predators, who have won back-to-back games, are 11-0-3 when Fisher scores. The Canucks had a four-game winning streak end.

"I felt a lot better than I thought I was going to be," Fisher said. "Judging by the morning I was pretty tired after a short skate."

Fisher felt better at 5:42 of the second period when he scored a power-play goal. Fisher made a backdoor

move toward the net, and Ryan Suter found him with a pass from the right circle. Fisher tipped the puck inside the left post and off of goalie Roberto Luongo's right pad.

"Obviously, getting that goal kind of gives you a little bit of a boost," Fisher said. "After the first few shifts I knew I would be fine. I really didn't think it was going to be a huge issue. Everyone played well, and it was a huge win for

us, so it was easy for me to fit in."

With the Predators leading 2-0, Dale Weise scored the lone goal for Vancouver at 16:52 of the second. He scored with a backhand as he skated across the crease in front of goalie Pekka Rinne.

"I thought we played well," Weise said. "I think my goal gave us a spark. Their goalie stood on his head."

Rinne stopped 32 shots

for his 33rd win of the season. Luongo made 25 saves.

"It was a hard-fought game by both teams battling for every inch on the ice," Vancouver coach Alain Vigneault said. "Both goaltenders were doing a good job out there."

"In the third period, they took their game up a notch and they were the better team. They had way more opportunities than we did, and they deserved to win."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4

sports

Quoted



"He's a Japanese pitcher with a power arm ... He doesn't rely on deception like most of the Japanese pitchers."

TEXAS RANGERS MANAGER RON WASHINGTON, ON YU DARVISH, ABOVE, WHO ARRIVED TO CAMP IN SURPRISE, ARIZ., ON TUESDAY, A DAY BEFORE THE REPORTING DATE FOR PITCHERS AND CATCHERS. THE AL-CHAMPION RANGERS COMMITTED MORE THAN \$107 MILLION THIS WINTER TO ACQUIRE JAPAN'S TOP PITCHER.

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Engine

The heart of the transformation to R-Spec from an ordinary Genesis sedan sits between the front fenders. The displacement of the automaker's Tau-branded V8 has been increased to 5.0-litres from 4.6 and the horsepower/torque rating to 429 and 376 pound-feet from 385/333. For comparison, that's 17 horses more than the much-celebrated-by-Ford-fans 5.0 in the Mustang GT.

The new Hyundai R-Spec, is now the only Genesis V8 model available in Canada and employs the same powerplant as the larger and more luxurious Equus.

Bells and whistles

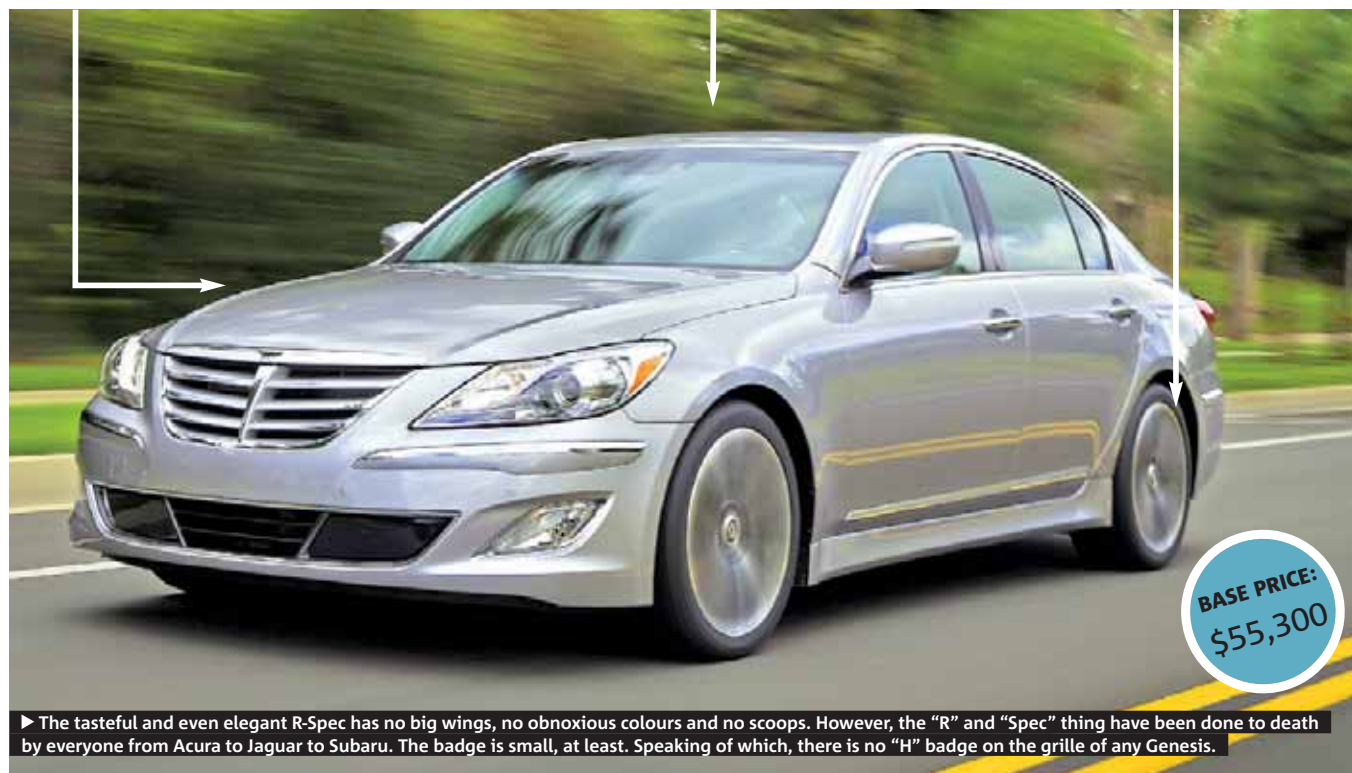
The R-spec theme continues inside with "tuxedo black" leather combined with bright trim surrounding the control panel and shifter.

And of course Hyundai's bells-and-whistles department has included most of the desirable items. That means you can count on a standard power sunroof, memory settings for the power front seats, heated front and rear seats plus steering wheel, woodgrain trim, front and rear park assist, backup camera and a 17-speaker premium sound package.

Performance

Despite the power bulge, the R-Spec still returns reasonable fuel economy of 13.1 l/100 km city and 8.1 highway.

On the performance front, Hyundai expects the R-Spec to run zero-to-60-m.p.h. (96 km/h) in the low-five-second range, which is pretty decent for a hefty 1,880-kilogram sedan.



► The tasteful and even elegant R-Spec has no big wings, no obnoxious colours and no scoops. However, the "R" and "Spec" thing have been done to death by everyone from Acura to Jaguar to Subaru. The badge is small, at least. Speaking of which, there is no "H" badge on the grille of any Genesis.

What does R-Spec spell?



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In Aretha Franklin's monster hit, she cried out for a little "R-E-S-P-E-C-T." The one thing you could say about that song and Hyundai's similarly named Genesis "R-Spec" sedan is that they both have plenty of soul.

Hyundai has confounded more than a few critics with the success of its full-size rear-wheel-drive four-door that was launched for the 2009 model year.

How could the company that brought us the lowly Excel and subsequent econo-runners dare to think that it could run with the big dogs from Detroit, Germany and Japan?

The Genesis was a gutsy call for the Korea-based automaker, especially when fuel prices were surging and the economy was losing steam. But the car's luxury leanings and comparatively modest price tag (likely aided by a reassuringly lengthy warranty) have allowed the Genesis to carve out a niche. It also spawned the larger and even more luxurious Equus.

For 2012, Hyundai is branching out the Genesis, taking it on a path that involves the development of a performance brand dubbed the R-Spec. Forget the rather unoriginal "R" and "Spec" to denote performance, and consider that this car actually has real performance.



► For a sport package, the most obvious omission is the lack of metal foot pedals. The rest looks like it could come from Infiniti or Acura, which are likely competitors to the R-Spec.



► Artful exhaust finishers, tail chrome and LED lighting are contrasted by busy 19-inch wheels shod with Bridgestone summer tires.

Genesis R-Spec



What you should know about the 2012 Hyundai Genesis R-Spec:

- **Types:** Four-door, rear-wheel-drive full-size sedan.
- **Engine (hp):** 5.0-litre DOHC V8 (429).
- **Transmission:** Eight-speed automatic.
- **Market position:** The R-Spec label denotes significantly improved performance in much the same way that BMW's "M" cars and Mercedes-Benz's AMG denotes added sporting flavour. None compete at the R-Spec's price, though.
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 13.1/8.1.

5 drive

By comparison

Chrysler 300c

Base price: \$41,700
Limo-like V8 has 363 hp. 470-hp SRT8 right in R-Spec's price bracket.



Lincoln MKS EcoBoost

Base price: \$55,400
Sedate sedan cruises with 355-hp turbocharged V6 and standard AWD.



Lexus GS 350

Base price: \$53,850
New rear-driver missing 120 horsepower, but AWD, hybrid available.



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Toyota 4Runner built 4 family confidence

SECOND GEAR



JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

The last generation Toyota 4Runner was a sport utility vehicle (SUV) built with an appetite for towing, real off-road capability and plenty of all-season confidence.

Family ready and confident on any road or trail, 4Runner offered plenty of options, a high-class cabin and an entire aftermarket's worth of parts for customization.

2003-'09 Toyota 4Runner



Engine

Engine choices started with a four-litre, 245 horsepower V6 or a 4.7-litre V8. The V6 engine was eventually de-rated to 236 horsepower, while the V8 was bumped to 260.



What owners like

Owner praise for the last-generation 4Runner mainly comes from cargo carrying capacity, driving confidence and rugged styling. Many owners report a comfortable and quiet ride, too.



What owners dislike

Gripes are limited almost entirely to the fuel mileage complaints typical from most SUV owners. If you don't need an off-road capable 4x4, consider a minivan or smaller crossover.



Common issues

If you're buying an earlier model 4Runner in this generation, ensure the frame is relatively free of rust. Toyota had some very well-documented structural frame rust issues for several years, though these seem to have been corrected by time the last-generation 4Runner came around.

Signs of heavy off-road use may include excessive mud or sand packed into the vehicle's lower radiator area or underside. Get underneath and check for heavy denting or scrapes in the floor and frame rails. These could be a sign of abuse.

Verdict

If the used 4Runner model you're considering checks out, you're likely looking at a reliable, capable sidekick that'll serve your family for years to come.

Newly licensed drivers still have plenty to learn

► New study shows why you should continue to teach your teenagers

DRIVING FORCE

JILL McINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Young drivers who finish driving school and pass their tests might think their lessons are finished. In reality, they are only just starting the learning process.

According to a new study by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety in the U.S., teenagers are 50 per cent more likely to crash in their first month of driving than after they've been behind the wheel for a year.

"You do better at any job once you've learned the skills," says Carol Ronis, senior manager of communications for the Foundation.

"Practice is important, and parents can engage in helping their teens continue to learn how to drive and shape them for a life-

From a young age

► Children learn by mimicking. Even if your child is too young to drive, he or she is still learning driving habits by watching you. If you run red lights, speed or text, your children may carry those lessons over when it's time for them to get behind the wheel.

time of safe driving."

More than half of these early crashes boil down to three common errors: failure to reduce speed, inattention, and failure to yield, especially on left-hand turns.

"Certain types of crashes initially occur at high rates and decline very quickly, such as the left-hand turn," Ronis says.

"You have to look right and left, you have to look across, you're entering into traffic, and you have to gauge a bunch of different factors. It's just a matter of learning and gaining the



► C'mon buddy, it's supposed to be two hands on the wheel.

experience."

Taking young drivers on unfamiliar routes or at different times of the day is important, Ronis says.

"We see the novice driver under the supervised stage who is usually running errands or driving on the same road," she says.

"Once they have their independent license, they'll go ahead and take

the highway, but mom and dad never practiced on the highway, or had them driving at night. You have to take them beyond their comfort zone."

A related study used in-vehicle cameras, which found that teenagers' behaviour changed when there were no adults in the car.

Although most driving

was uneventful, the camera did capture a number of close calls due to mistakes caused by inexperience, along with running red lights, horseplay with passengers and texting behind the wheel.

"Continue to stay involved and continue to have a dialogue with your child about safe driving habits," Ronis says, who

suggests that parents occasionally ride along even after a young driver has achieved an independent license.

"Talk about what he's doing wrong, whether it's a fundamental skill, or running a red light or not stopping at a stop sign. You're creating the tools so they can master the art of driving."



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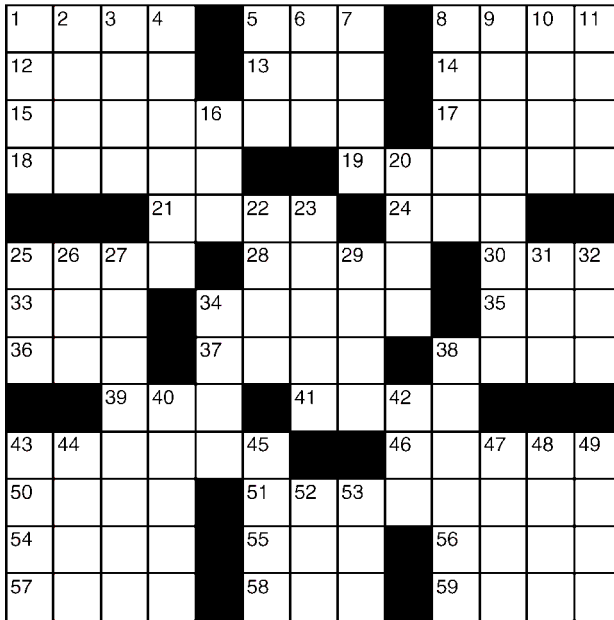
HONDA

**MSRP is \$27,580 including freight and PDI of \$1,590 for a new 2012 CR-V LX 2WD model RM3H3CE(S). For all offers license, insurance, applicable taxes and registration are extra. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer trade may be required. #Limited time lease offers based on a new 2012 CR-V LX 2WD model RM3H3CE(S). Lease example based on new 2012 CR-V LX 2WD model RM3H3CE(S) available through Honda Canada Finance Inc. *3.99% lease APR for 48 months O.A.C. Monthly payment, including freight and PDI, is \$328. Down payment of \$1,921.00, first monthly payment, environmental fees and \$0 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$15,936.10. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. 96,000 kilometre allowance; charge of \$0.12/km for excess kilometre. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer trade may be required. **// Offers valid from February 1st through February 29th, 2012 at participating Honda retailers. Offers valid only for British Columbia residents at BC Honda Dealers locations. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. Terms and conditions apply. Visit www.bchonda.com or see your Honda retailer for full details.

Crossword

Across

1 Snake's tooth
5 Billboards
8 Song's ending
12 Waikiki wingding
13 Floral garland
14 Press
15 Going around the Earth
17 Fit of peevishness
18 Rigatoni, e.g.
19 Greek underworld goddess
21 — and crafts
24 — de plume
25 Heath
28 Re planes
30 Sprite
33 Bobby of hockey
34 Oust
35 Keanu, in "The Matrix"
36 Cribbage scorer
37 Give as an example
38 Impale
39 "That feels so good!"
41 Lotion additive
43 Horse-drawn cab
46 Reserved
50 Egyptian wading bird
51 Conventional
54 Dimension
55 Pod occupant
56 Portrayal
57 Undo a dele
58 Early bird?
59 "Woe is me!"
Down
1 Dud
2 Emanation
3 Arrests
4 Elvis' instrument



5 "The Greatest"

6 Lair

7 Sound of relief

8 Lake herring

9 Decoration

10 — -yourself kit

11 Initial chip

16 Pitch

20 Certain compound

22 Urban transport

23 Dividing walls

25 Swab the deck

26 Raw rock

27 Arrange systematically

29 Spool

31 Grazing land

32 Watch chain

34 Reverberate

38 Lady of Spain

40 Item in the plus column

42 "— la la!"

43 Greet the villain

44 Slightly

45 Sulk

47 "American —"

48 Pop flavor

49 Former spouses

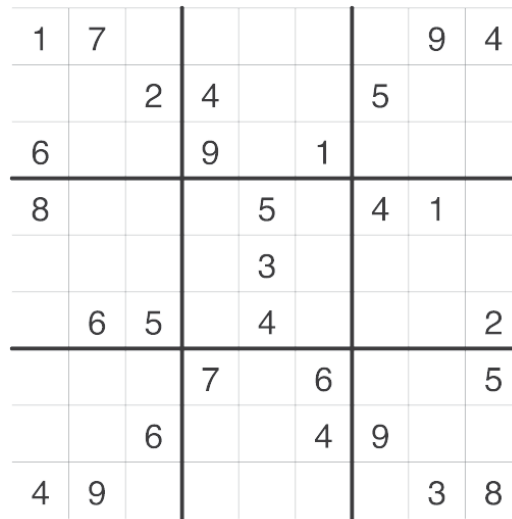
52 Rule, for short

53 It's game?

Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

7	9	2	1	4	8	3	5	6
3	8	6	2	7	5	9	4	1
4	5	1	9	6	3	8	2	7
5	1	9	7	3	4	2	6	8
8	2	4	6	1	9	5	7	3
6	3	7	5	8	2	1	9	4
2	4	8	3	5	7	6	1	9
9	6	3	4	2	1	7	8	5
1	7	5	8	9	6	4	3	2

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, at metronews.ca/kiss.

Mom Doris, I love you, you are a special women and I admired you, so when I grow I want be like you....

WITH LOVE, YOUR DAUGHTER
JUANITA

Peshogak

You're My Peshogak :) day by day i fall in love more and i can't live with out you....i love you more then anything baby **YOUR SAMOOKA**

Jack, I'm proud of you. Thank you that we are not a missed connection anymore. Thank you for keeping with me. Thank you for being open and putting your pride aside for reliving pain and confusion. Thank you for being 25 and not 23! Did I mention how proud I am of you? Thank you my beautiful man for going the distance and for the possibilities that lay before us - who knows where it will lead xo
IRISH ROSE

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20

You don't have to pretend you know all the answers. No one will think less of you for getting a few things wrong.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21

Someone whose power exceeds your own may seem threatening but planets indicate there is nothing he or she can do to hurt you.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21

If you want to get on in the world, you need to accept that setbacks and failures are inevitable.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22

You may feel deflated after the events of the past few days but there are a few surprises in store.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23

The planets warn there are people in your social circle who would take advantage of your generosity.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22

If you fall behind in your schedule at work, you'll have to do a lot of catching up and making up later.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23

There are things going on behind the scenes that you cannot possibly know about, but you can sense that changes are coming.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22

You cannot make up your mind which of two paths you should be following. Only one can lead to the inner peace you crave. Take it.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec.

There are a number of loose ends that need to be dealt with right away. Invest the time needed.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20

If you let negative thoughts gain a foothold, they will be extremely hard to get rid of again.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18

You can see that a different approach is needed on the romantic front. It's not a sign of weakness to show your feelings occasionally.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20

You may hear something you are not supposed to hear today. If so, keep the information to yourself.

© SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest



"What do you think of my makeover?" **EVAN CHONG**



You write it!

WIN! Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Tuesday's Metro.

metro

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50 MPG*

2012 SONATA

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Limited model shown

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